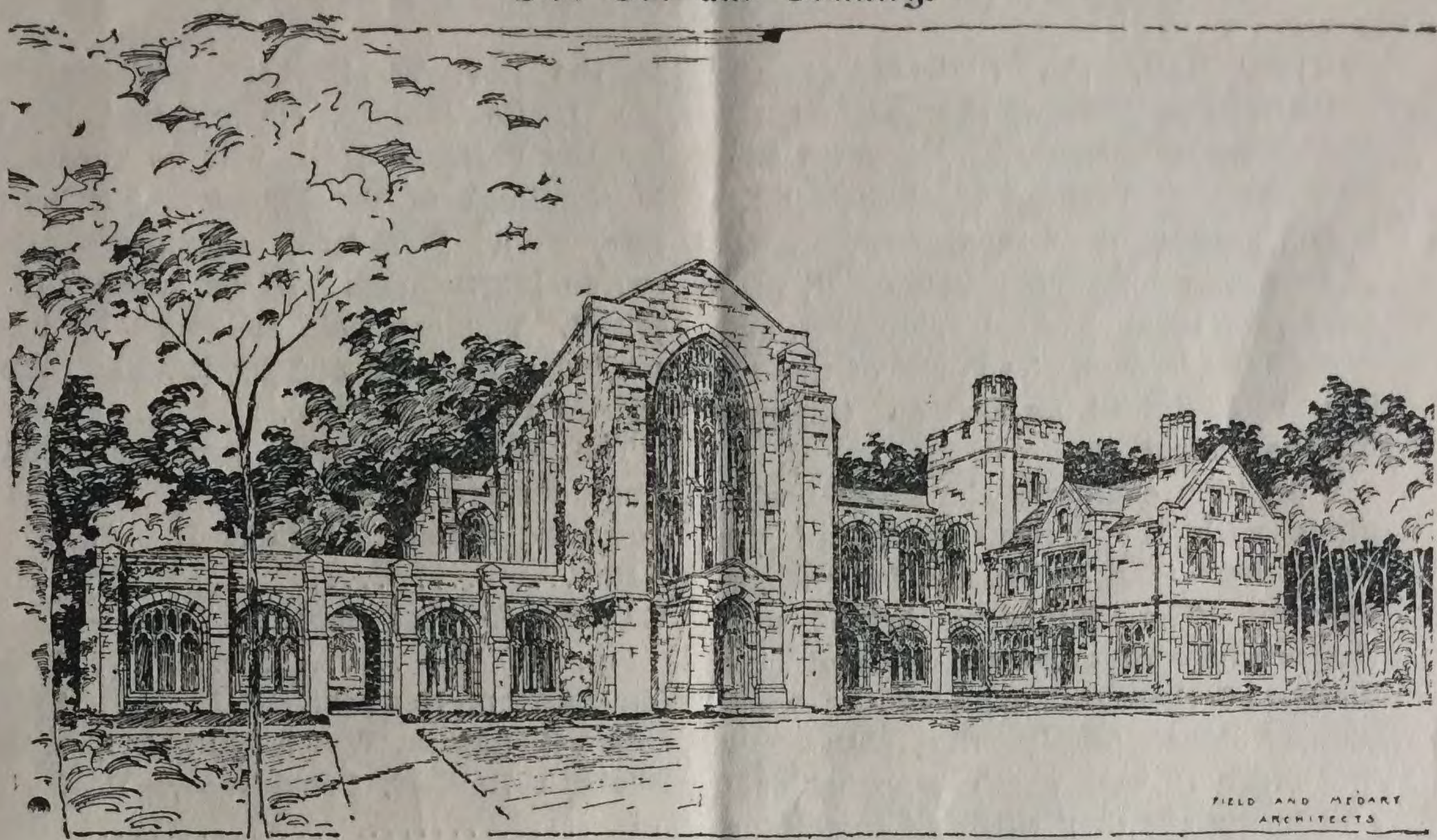
"For God and Country."



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory.

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England —is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge,

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

MISS EMMA W. CRAWFORD, Editor. MRS. ROBERT WOOD, Business Manager

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A SMALL BEGINNING.

On Labor Day, 1902, the late Mrs. W. Herbert Burk entertained a few friends at Valley Forge. Mr. Burk took the opportunity to speak of his dream of a wayside chapel at Valley Forge in commemoration of Washington's prevailing prayer. All were struck with the beautiful thought, and three of those present at once pledged twenty-five dollars toward the work. Other duties prevented Mr. Burk from pressing the matter and no mention was made of it until he preached the sermon on Washington's Birthday 1903, by which the movement was given its impetus.

Twenty-five dollars seemed a very small beginning for even the modest wayside shrine contemplated; but for every dollar pledged on that day there has been given a thousand dollars. The wayside chapel has become the center of a strong religious life, with its resident missionary and regular congregation. The little sanctuary of the dream has given way to the nobler chapel, with its great promise of beauty. The

Patriots' Hall, the Cloister of the Colonies, the Pews of the Patriots, the Valley Forge Museum of American History and the Washington Memorial Library, unthought of then, are now parts of this unique national monument, with their promise of great development, and two of the bays of the Porch of the Allies are promised, as well as windows for the Chapel, etc.

When one compares the small beginnings with the present status of the work there is good ground for encouragement. The future is bright with the prospect of great things, and the pledge of these is found in the work already done. Surely the plan now laid down is well worth working out; and happy are they who find something to do in the fulfilment of this great ideal.

THE PATRIOTS' HALL.

The Museum of American History.

The opening of the Museum has been again postponed, this time on account of the absence of the Rev. Mr. Burk. He has been making the collections for it, and naturally the arrangements will be left in his hands. Upon his return the work will be pushed rapidly, especially as most of the catalogue has been made for some time.

Those who have relics for the Museum should communicate with Mr. Burk, as that will save rearrangement. Relics may be sent to All Saints' rectory, Norristown, at any time. They should be properly marked, with the donor's name. It will be a great advantage to have the record accompany the gift, giving its history.

The Founders' Certificates.

We have been asked, "How can one become a Founder of the Patriots' Hall?" Every one sending one dollar to the Rev. W. Herbert Burk or to Mr. Leslie Jefferis, stating that it is for the Patriots' Hall, will be enrolled in the Book of the Founders and will receive a Founders' Certificate. Of course larger sums will be gladly received. You can help the work by becoming a Founder and by inviting your friends to do likewise.

The following have been enrolled since our last report:

Delaware County Chapter, D. A. R.	$5.00
William Herbert Spooner, Wheeling, W. Va.	1.00
Ida Lawton, Newport, R. I.	5.00
Jessie C. Larkin, Watch Hill, R. I.	1.00
Eliabeth DeWolf, Providence, R. I.	1.00
M. J. Barnett, New Bloomfield, Pa.	1.00
Jean Barnett Ramsey, New Bloomfield, Pa.	1.00
A. Justine Van Gundy, Carthage, Ill.	1.00
Morris S. Van Gundy, Carthage, Ill.	1.00
George C. Van Gundy, Carthage, Ill.	1.00
Miss Mary H. Foster, Providence, R. I.	1.00
Mrs. James Mortimer Carpenter, Pawtucket, R. I.	1.00
Miss Virginia W. Derr, Reading, Pa.	1.00
Miss Caroline Derr Archer, Reading, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Clara B. Clapp, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Annie R. Evans, Pottstown, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. R. H. S. Goddard, Providence, R. I.	1.00
Mrs. Louise Prevost Evans, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Maude Long Davis, Kane, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Mary A. Sturgis Essig, Wallingford, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. John W. Frazier, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00

Mrs. David Floyd, Wyncote, Pa...	1.00
Floyd Bringhurst Keser, Wyncote, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Helena Wilbur Elliott, Bryn Mawr, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Frank Gates Allen, Mobile, Ill.	1.00
Miss Caroline M. Custer, Reading, Pa.	1.00
Miss Eliazbeth M. Custer, Reading, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Robinson F. Downey, Waynesburg, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Lizzie Remak Fenton, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Miss Elizabeth Peters Creswell, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Ellicott Fisher, Logan Station, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. A. W. Cook, Cooksburg, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. C. A. F. Farnum, 2d, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Miss Marie Louise Dawson, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. David Fleming, Chestnut Hill, Pa.	5.00
Miss Gertrude F. Clarkson, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. Edna Hiltner Dunkle, Philipsburg, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. William P. Ellison, Philadelphia, Pa.	1.00
Mrs. James Crawford Dysart, Holidaysburg, Pa.	1.00
	$51.00
Previously reported	49.00
	$100.00

"I beg you, my dear friend, whatever be your suffering, to learn first of all that not to take your sorrow off is what God means, but to put strength into you, that you may carry it. Be sure your sorrow is not giving you its best unless it makes you a more thoughtful person than you have ever been before."—Phillips Brooks.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE,
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.
THE REV. FRANCIS T. H. FINN
ASSISTANT,
PORT KENNEDY.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Treasurer,
Port Kennedy, Pa.
William Rumford, Sexton.

Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Second Sunday of the month, 10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Stewart Fund Hall
Sundays.

10.00 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

11.00 A. M. Service and Sermon.

Calendar.

August 23. Tenth Sunday after Trinity.

August 24. St. Bartholomew's Day. Service at 11 a. m.

August 29. Lawn Fete at Port Kennedy. Martha Washington Guild.

August 30. Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.

Sept. 2. Annual meeting of the Guild at Mrs. Chas. Wells Walker, 2 p. m.

September 6. Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.

September 13. Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.

BAPTISMS.

August 2, 1908. Althea Caldwell Mohler.

August 16, 1908. Aaron Leon Philip Coleman.

MARRIAGES.

August 3, 1908. At Valley Forge Farm, Chester county, Theodore Murdoch Livesay and Althea Caldwell Mohler.

BURIALS.

May 25, 1908. Mason Pechin.

The Rev. Mr. Burk sailed for Trieste on the "Alice" on July 18th and will return on the same vessel. Before he sailed a committee of the Martha Washington Guild visited him and on behalf of the Guild presented him with a cheque for one hundred dollars. Mr Burk was deeply moved by this act of thoughtful generosity on the part of the girls of the mission, and in a letter to the secretary, Miss Eleanor Andrews, he expressed his appreciation of the Guild's action. Miss Mary S. Stephens presented the cheque.

A work of the greatest interest is the pulpit. The work is so far advanced that visitors to the shop of Mr. William M. Sullivan can already see something of the beauty of this noble memorial. Within a few weeks the pulpit will be adorning the chapel. Like the font it will bear the Washington arms and the crusaders' crosses.

The new flag was used for the first time on Evacuation Day. It was given by one who wishes to see perpetuated Mrs. Burk's suggestion that the flag of our country should always fly when services are held.

In the death of Miss Mary Finn, the chapel has suffered a serious loss. Miss Finn was one of the most loyal and devoted workers at the Chapel. She took an active interest in the Sunday school work and formed a girl's club from the young girls of the neighborhood who met at her home to sew. This club was afterward reorganized into the Martha Washington Guild and their excellent work proves their devotion to Miss Finn's loving care, and it seems most fitting at this time to give an account of the Guild which she started on its path of earnest work for the Chapel.

In the Guild meeting of January, 1908, the question of the formation of a junior Guild came up and it was decided that one be formed immediately with Miss Finn at its head. Miss Finn gathered thirteen charter members at the first meeting. The Guild was called the "Martha Washington Guild," and any girls under eighteen could become members. There should be two meetings a month on alternate Saturday afternoons, one afternoon to be devoted to sewing and the other to special duties assigned. The dues are 25 cents a year and the head is always an older person—a member of the senior Guild, appointed by the President of the Guild Miss Finn was appointed first president and the other officers were: Vice-President, Miss Anna Andrews; Secretary, Miss Eleanor Andrews; Treasurer, Miss Mary Stephens.

Their object is to work in conjunction with the senior Guild for the building fund and though the Guild has been organized such a short time it has already done excellent work. The members acted as aids at the Washington Birthday supper and have always been ready to assist with all undertakings at the Chapel. And it is hoped that this spirit of unanimity and close fellowship between the Guilds will always be a marked feature of all undertakings. In unity lies strength. The following have already been enrolled as members: Anna Andrews, Elizabeth Fulton, Eleanor Andrews, Lulu Fulton, Mary Stephens, Alva Andrews, Florence McCurdy, Marugerite Kohler, Helen McCurdy, Grace McCaidell, Esther Epright, Margaret Todd, Ruth Epright, Martha Andrews, Jane Todd, Jessie Garner, Sadie Quander, Minnie Law and the following as subscribers: Mrs. Nathan Hughes, Miss Annie Cutler, Mrs. Robert Wood, Mrs. Summerill, Miss A. W. Pechin, Mr. Frank Quigg.

Maryland Men in the Revolution.

The Paper read by the Rev. J. Andrews Harris, S. T. D., Rector of St. Paul's Church, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, at the Dedication of the "Maryland Bay" in the Cloister of the Colonies, June 19, 1908.

On this 19th day of June, 1908, we are met here to dedicate the "Maryland Bay" of this monument in memory of the heroes who won for us our freedom by their self-sacrifice.

What part had the men of Maryland in it?

In the first place, but for the glorious 400 at the Battle of Long Island, there would have been no story of Valley Forge to tell; for it was their superb courage and discipline, their magnificent self devotion which enabled Washington to withdraw his shattered army to Manhattan Island and save it from annihilation or capture, a catastrophe which would have brought the war for independence to a speedy end.

Colonel Smallwood commanded the Maryland regiment, but at the time of the battle was, with some other officers, attending a court martial in New York. The immediate command of the Maryland troops in the battle was held by Major Gist. I transcribe from J. Thomas Scharf's "History of Maryland" the story of the fight at the point when "on all sides the enemy were closing round the feeble band commanded by Stirling" (under whom Gist and the Marylanders were) "with the intention to crush it, as they had done Sullivan's unfortunate army. The situation was terrible, but Stirling did not lose his self-possession. . . . He resolved upon a costly sacrifice to save his retreating columns, which were now toiling through the salt marshes and across the deep tidewater creek in their rear. Changing his front and taking with him less than 400 of the Maryland regiment under Major Gist, Stirling ordered the rest of his force to retreat across the Gowanus marsh and creek, which the rising tide was making every moment less and less possible. He knew the quality of the soldiers whom he had chosen for a perilous duty.

"This body of young men, sons of the best families of Catholic Maryland, had been emulous of the praise of being the best drilled and disciplined of the Revolutionary forces, and their high spirits, their courage, their self-devotion, as well as the discipline of which they were proud, were now to be proved in the fierce furnace of battle. Flinging himself at the head of these brave lads, who on that day for the first time saw the flash of an enemy's guns, Stirling determined to stem the advance of the foe.

"The little band, now numbering hardly 400 men, prepared for an assault upon five times their number of the best troops of the invading army, who were inflamed with all the arrogance of successful combat.

"Forming hurriedly on ground in the vicinity of Fifth avenue and Tenth street, the light column advanced along the Gowanus road into the jaws of battle with unwavering front.

"Artillery plowed their fast-thinning ranks with the awful bolts of war, infantry poured its volley of musket balls in almost solid sheets of lead upon them, and from the adjacent hills the deadly Hessian Jagers sent swift messengers of death into many a manly form. Still, above the roar of cannon, musketry and rifles, was heard the shout of their brave leaders, 'Close up! Close up!' and again the staggering, yet unflinching files, grown fearfully thin, drew together and turned their stern, young faces to their country's foe.

"At the head of this devoted band marched their general, to whom even victory had now became less import-

ant than an honorable death, which might purchase the safe retreat of his army. Amid all the terrible carnage of the hour there was no hurry, no confusion, only a grim despair, which their courage and self-devotion dignified into martyrdom. The advanced bodies of the enemy were back upon the Cortelyou house—now become a formidable redoubt—from the windows of which the leaden hail thinned the patriot ranks as they approached. Lord Cornwallis hurriedly brought two guns into position near one corner of the house, and added their canister and grape to the tempest of death.

"At last the little column halted, powerless to advance in the face of this murderous fire, yet disdaining to retreat with the disgrace of a flight. Again and again these self-devoted heroes closed their ranks over the bodies of their dead comrades, and still turned their faces to the foe. But the limit of human endurance had for the time been reached, and the shattered column was driven back. Their task was not, however, yet fully performed.

"As Stirling looked across the salt meadows, away to the scene of his late struggle at Bluckie's Barracks, and saw the confused masses of his countrymen crowding the narrow causeway over Freeke's mill pond, or struggling through the muddy tide-stream, he felt how precious to their country's liberty were the lives of his retreating soldiers, and he again nerved himself for a combat, which he knew could only prove a sacrifice. Once more he called upon the survivors of the previous deadly assault, and again the noble young men gathered round their general. . . .

"The impetus and spirit of this charge carried the battalion over every obstacle quite up to the house. The gunners were driven from their battery, and Cornwallis seemed about to abandon the position; but the galling fire from the interior of the house, and from the adjacent high ground, with the overwhelming numbers of the enemy, who were now approaching, again compelled a retreat.

"Three times more the survivors rallied, flinging themselves upon the constantly re-enforced ranks of the enemy; but the combat so long and so unequally sustained was now hastening to its close. A few minutes more of this destroying fire and two hundred and fifty-six of the noble youth of Maryland were either prisoners in the hands of the enemy or lay side by side in that awful mass of dead and dying.

"The sacrifice had been accomplished, and the flying army had been saved from complete destruction."

Mr. Field says, "The sacrifice of their lives, so freely made by the generous and noble sons of Maryland, had not been made in vain. An hour, *more precious to American liberty than any other in its history had been gained.*"

It was the men of Maryland who gained it for their country, and had they done no more than this, undying laurels would glorify them to the end of time. But the same spirit was manifested all through the war. One short descriptive sentence of John Fiske's tells the story:

"In this noble struggle (in Long Island) the highest honors were won by the brigade of Maryland men commanded by Smallwood, and throughout the war we shall find this honorable distinction of Maryland for the personal gallantry of her troops fully maintained until in the last pitched battle at Eutaw Springs, we see them driving the finest infantry of England at the point of the bayonet.

"Maryland soldiers participated in every hard fought battle of the Revolution, from Long Island to Yorktown, and were especially distinguished for bravery at Camden, Eutaw Springs, Guilford Court House, Hobkirk's Hall, and Cowpens. They were the 'Old Guard'

of the Continental forces, 'the bayonet of the Revolution.' "

"It was a son of Maryland, Colonel Tench Tilghman, Washington's aide, who rode from Yorktown to Philadelphia, carrying the news of Cornwallis' surrender to the Continental Congress. He crossed the Chesapeake Bay to the eastern shore of Maryland in an open boat, where, securing a horse, he started on his way, riding in the dim watches of the night. When his horse gave out, he would ride up to a house and call out, "A horse for the Congress, Cornwallis is taken!" There was a flash of light, a patter of glad feet, a welcome and a God-speed. This was repeated time and again, until finally thundering into Philadelphia at midnight, independence bell was rung, Congress convened, and the watchman on his rounds proclaimed, "Twelve o'clock; all's well, and Cornwallis is taken!"

And so, on this 130th anniversary of the Evacuation of Valley Forge, we have met to dedicate, in the "cloister of the Colonies" in this pantheon of Revolutionary heroes, the "Maryland Bay" presented for his State by a son of Maryland.

Until its solid mass shall crumble by the touch of time, visitors to this hallowed spot will be reminded by this monument of the Maryland men, who, at Long Island, saved the American army, and afterwards maintained their proud renown throughout the war, counting not their lives dear unto themselves that they might finish their course with the joy of a country redeemed from foreign thraldom, and made (God grant forever) "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

History crowns their brows with the fadeless laurels of undying fame. God rest their souls in peace eternal!

The lawn fete at Valley Forge, under Mrs. Hoy's supervision, was a great success. The orchard was beautifully decorated and the moon shown graciously on the workers and visitors. One table was gay with watermelons and fruit; another with delicious cakes and candies. The Junior Guild had a table which added to the festivity of the occasion, and the crowning pleasure was the music furnished by the Port Kennedy Band.

A beautiful service was held at the Chapel on the afternoon of Transfiguration Day. Why were not more of the Chapel members there to appreciate it?

On Sunday last the altar was most attractively decorated by Mrs. Zulich, who has again taken charge of the chancel decorations.

Mrs. Bean, of Valley Forge, has an agency for kettle menders and turns all the profits over to the Guild. They are 25 cents a package and Mrs. Bean will gladly fill all orders sent her.

The Martha Washington Guild will give a fair on the Patterson lawn in Port Kennedy, August 29th, from four until nine o'clock. A well-stocked table of fancy and useful articles, aprons blouses, etc., and home-made cakes and bread will be attractive features of the afternoon.

The regular monthly meeting of the Guild was held on the Chapel lawn on Thursday, August 13th. The most important consideration for the meeting was action upon the death of Miss Finn, sister of our associate rector. The next meeting will be the annual meeting and will be held, according to custom, at Mrs. Charles Wells Walker's, Wednesday, September 2d, at 2 o'clock. The adoption of By-Laws, the election of officers, and the annual reports will

be brought before the meeting. It is hoped that the attendance will be unusually large.

The Guild will be very glad to fill any orders for duster caps, aprons, children's clothes, etc. Orders can be sent to Mrs. Summerill, Port Kennedy, Pa.

The Guild will hold three meetings a year at King-of-Prussia, for the convenience of the friends and workers in that field. The first meeting will be held in October at Stewart Fund hall.

WASHINGTON'S PRAYERS.

"The Church Standard" published the following appreciative review of the book on "Washington's Prayers," published for the benefit of the Chapel by the Rev. W. Herbert Burk:

"The religious character of Washington has been much discussed, with the result that opinions are very varied indeed. The difficulty seems to lie in the preconceived notions of some who have investigated the subject. They have assumed that, as Washington seems to have possessed some very human frailties, and religion was at a somewhat low ebb in the revolutionary days, his interest in spiritual things was only nominal. The Rev. Mr. Burk has taken up the question because he is much interested in building a chapel at Valley Forge; he has gone over the same ground that Washington knew so well, and as a result has breathed in some of the spirit of Valley Forge. This has led him to study the subject, and, from the viewpoint of a Churchman who would naturally be supposed to sympathize with a Churchman of the character of Washington, he has made a summary of the prayers, and given the reasons why he believes that Washington was much given to prayer. The theme is splendidly set forth by Bishop Gibson, who, as he thanks the good Quaker brother, Isaac Potts, for telling of the incident of the prayer in the woods, says: 'We understand a great many things. . . . Now we know what to think of his church attendance. . . . Now we can understand the active interest in the affairs of his parish. . . The sun streaming through one mullioned window of the noble library floods the apartment with light, and shows where each volume stands on its well-ordered shelves.' The volume before us has a fac-simile of the 'Manuscript Prayer Book Written by George Washington,' and though the authorship of the prayers is not settled, yet with Bishop Gibson's theme, the Rev Mr. Burk's essay, the thoughts of a Churchman and the prayers themselves, we can well believe that they came from no other pen than that of George Washington."

"Valley Forge! How dear to the true worshiper at the shrine of Freedom is the name of Valley Forge! There, in the midst of frost and snows, disease and destitution, liberty erected her altar, and in all the world's history we have no record of purer devotion, holier sincerity, or more pious self-sacrifice than there exhibited in the camp of Washington. The courage that nerves the arm on the battle-field and dazzles by its brilliant but evanescent flashes, pales before the steadier and more intense flame of patient endurance, the sum of the sublime heroism displayed at Valley Forge. And if there is a spot on the face of our broad land whereon patriotism should delight to pile its highest and most venerated monument, it should be on the bosom of that little vale on the banks of the Schuylkill."
—Extract from Lossing's Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution.